

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE THE APPLICATION OF)
Richard John Hawes) Examiner: Ramya G. Prakasam
SERIAL NO.: 10/541,802) Customer Number: 23644
FILED: September 19, 2005) Art Unit: 3651
FOR: Improved Pick and Place Gripper) Confirmation Number: 4240
)

RESPONSE TO FURTHER ELECTION REQUIREMENT
DATED NOVEMBER 27, 2009

Honorable Director of Patents and Trademarks
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Examiner's further action of November 27, 2009 and after telephone clarification from the Examiner, the following is being provided in response to the election of species originally issued on July 17, 2009.

The Examiner has requested that a specie be elected from each of the three lettered groups. Therefore, the following, to the extent possible, is provided.

First, with regard to Group A, the Applicant elects specie A2, drawn to Figure 4.

With regard to Group B, the Applicant elects specie B3, directed to Figures 8A and 8B.

With regard to Group C, the Applicant is unable to elect one of the "species" out of the three, as all three show the same embodiment, but in different positions. It can be seen that the blades 204, 206 move closer together as one moves from Figure 14 to Figure 15 and then to Figure 16. Figures 14A to 14D show different views of this embodiment in the same position, as do Figures 15A to 15D and 16A to

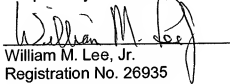
16D. Thus, the requirement regarding Group C is traversed since only a single specie is shown.

With regard to claims that read on the confluence of the three elected species, as the Examiner has noted, claim 91 is generic. It is believed that dependent claims 92-94, 97, 99, 100, 102-110, 112-114 and 117-127 are readable thereon.

It is believed that this response therefore provides what the Examiner is seeking, and further action by the Examiner is now awaited.

December 24, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "William M. Lee, Jr.", is written over a horizontal line.

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